

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Dental Practice Act is amended by  
5 changing Sections 4, 17, 17.1, and 18 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 25/4) (from Ch. 111, par. 2304)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

8 Sec. 4. Definitions. As used in this Act:

9 "Address of record" means the designated address recorded  
10 by the Department in the applicant's or licensee's application  
11 file or license file as maintained by the Department's  
12 licensure maintenance unit. It is the duty of the applicant or  
13 licensee to inform the Department of any change of address and  
14 those changes must be made either through the Department's  
15 website or by contacting the Department.

16 "Department" means the Department of Financial and  
17 Professional Regulation.

18 "Secretary" means the Secretary of Financial and  
19 Professional Regulation.

20 "Board" means the Board of Dentistry.

21 "Dentist" means a person who has received a general  
22 license pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section 11 of this Act and  
23 who may perform any intraoral and extraoral procedure required

1 in the practice of dentistry and to whom is reserved the  
2 responsibilities specified in Section 17.

3 "Dental hygienist" means a person who holds a license  
4 under this Act to perform dental services as authorized by  
5 Section 18.

6 "Dental assistant" means an appropriately trained person  
7 who, under the supervision of a dentist, provides dental  
8 services as authorized by Section 17.

9 "Expanded function dental assistant" means a dental  
10 assistant who has completed the training required by Section  
11 17.1 of this Act.

12 "Dental laboratory" means a person, firm or corporation  
13 which:

14 (i) engages in making, providing, repairing or  
15 altering dental prosthetic appliances and other artificial  
16 materials and devices which are returned to a dentist for  
17 insertion into the human oral cavity or which come in  
18 contact with its adjacent structures and tissues; and

19 (ii) utilizes or employs a dental technician to  
20 provide such services; and

21 (iii) performs such functions only for a dentist or  
22 dentists.

23 "Supervision" means supervision of a dental hygienist or a  
24 dental assistant requiring that a dentist authorize the  
25 procedure, remain in the dental facility while the procedure  
26 is performed, and approve the work performed by the dental

1     hygienist or dental assistant before dismissal of the patient,  
2     but does not mean that the dentist must be present at all times  
3     in the treatment room.

4             "General supervision" means supervision of a dental  
5     hygienist requiring that the patient be a patient of record,  
6     that the dentist examine the patient in accordance with  
7     Section 18 prior to treatment by the dental hygienist, and  
8     that the dentist authorize the procedures which are being  
9     carried out by a notation in the patient's record, but not  
10    requiring that a dentist be present when the authorized  
11    procedures are being performed. The issuance of a prescription  
12    to a dental laboratory by a dentist does not constitute  
13    general supervision.

14            "Public member" means a person who is not a health  
15    professional. For purposes of board membership, any person  
16    with a significant financial interest in a health service or  
17    profession is not a public member.

18            "Dentistry" means the healing art which is concerned with  
19    the examination, diagnosis, treatment planning and care of  
20    conditions within the human oral cavity and its adjacent  
21    tissues and structures, as further specified in Section 17.

22            "Branches of dentistry" means the various specialties of  
23    dentistry which, for purposes of this Act, shall be limited to  
24    the following: endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery,  
25    orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics, pediatric dentistry,  
26    periodontics, prosthodontics, oral and maxillofacial

1 radiology, and dental anesthesiology.

2 "Specialist" means a dentist who has received a specialty  
3 license pursuant to Section 11(b).

4 "Dental technician" means a person who owns, operates or  
5 is employed by a dental laboratory and engages in making,  
6 providing, repairing or altering dental prosthetic appliances  
7 and other artificial materials and devices which are returned  
8 to a dentist for insertion into the human oral cavity or which  
9 come in contact with its adjacent structures and tissues.

10 "Impaired dentist" or "impaired dental hygienist" means a  
11 dentist or dental hygienist who is unable to practice with  
12 reasonable skill and safety because of a physical or mental  
13 disability as evidenced by a written determination or written  
14 consent based on clinical evidence, including deterioration  
15 through the aging process, loss of motor skills, abuse of  
16 drugs or alcohol, or a psychiatric disorder, of sufficient  
17 degree to diminish the person's ability to deliver competent  
18 patient care.

19 "Nurse" means a registered professional nurse, a certified  
20 registered nurse anesthetist licensed as an advanced practice  
21 registered nurse, or a licensed practical nurse licensed under  
22 the Nurse Practice Act.

23 "Patient of record" means a patient for whom the patient's  
24 most recent dentist has obtained a relevant medical and dental  
25 history and on whom the dentist has performed an examination  
26 and evaluated the condition to be treated.

1 "Dental responder" means a dentist or dental hygienist who  
2 is appropriately certified in disaster preparedness,  
3 immunizations, and dental humanitarian medical response  
4 consistent with the Society of Disaster Medicine and Public  
5 Health and training certified by the National Incident  
6 Management System or the National Disaster Life Support  
7 Foundation.

8 "Mobile dental van or portable dental unit" means any  
9 self-contained or portable dental unit in which dentistry is  
10 practiced that can be moved, towed, or transported from one  
11 location to another in order to establish a location where  
12 dental services can be provided.

13 "Public health dental hygienist" means a hygienist who  
14 holds a valid license to practice in the State, has 2 years of  
15 full-time clinical experience or an equivalent of 4,000 hours  
16 of clinical experience and has completed at least 42 clock  
17 hours of additional structured courses in dental education in  
18 advanced areas specific to public health dentistry.

19 "Public health setting" means a federally qualified health  
20 center; a federal, State, or local public health facility;  
21 Head Start; a special supplemental nutrition program for  
22 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) facility; ~~or~~ a certified  
23 school-based health center or school-based oral health  
24 program; a prison; or a long-term care facility.

25 "Public health supervision" means the supervision of a  
26 public health dental hygienist by a licensed dentist who has a

1 written public health supervision agreement with that public  
2 health dental hygienist while working in an approved facility  
3 or program that allows the public health dental hygienist to  
4 treat patients, without a dentist first examining the patient  
5 and being present in the facility during treatment, (1) who  
6 are eligible for Medicaid or (2) who are uninsured and whose  
7 household income is not greater than 200% of the federal  
8 poverty level.

9 "Teledentistry" means the use of telehealth systems and  
10 methodologies in dentistry and includes patient care and  
11 education delivery using synchronous and asynchronous  
12 communications under a dentist's authority as provided under  
13 this Act.

14 (Source: P.A. 101-64, eff. 7-12-19; 101-162, eff. 7-26-19;  
15 102-93, eff. 1-1-22; 102-588, eff. 8-20-21.)

16 (225 ILCS 25/17) (from Ch. 111, par. 2317)

17 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

18 Sec. 17. Acts constituting the practice of dentistry. A  
19 person practices dentistry, within the meaning of this Act:

20 (1) Who represents himself or herself as being able to  
21 diagnose or diagnoses, treats, prescribes, or operates for  
22 any disease, pain, deformity, deficiency, injury, or  
23 physical condition of the human tooth, teeth, alveolar  
24 process, gums or jaw; or

25 (2) Who is a manager, proprietor, operator or

1 conductor of a business where dental operations are  
2 performed; or

3 (3) Who performs dental operations of any kind; or

4 (4) Who uses an X-Ray machine or X-Ray films for  
5 dental diagnostic purposes; or

6 (5) Who extracts a human tooth or teeth, or corrects  
7 or attempts to correct malpositions of the human teeth or  
8 jaws; or

9 (6) Who offers or undertakes, by any means or method,  
10 to diagnose, treat or remove stains, calculus, and bonding  
11 materials from human teeth or jaws; or

12 (7) Who uses or administers local or general  
13 anesthetics in the treatment of dental or oral diseases or  
14 in any preparation incident to a dental operation of any  
15 kind or character; or

16 (8) Who takes material or digital scans for final  
17 impressions of the human tooth, teeth, or jaws or performs  
18 any phase of any operation incident to the replacement of  
19 a part of a tooth, a tooth, teeth or associated tissues by  
20 means of a filling, crown, a bridge, a denture or other  
21 appliance; or

22 (9) Who offers to furnish, supply, construct,  
23 reproduce or repair, or who furnishes, supplies,  
24 constructs, reproduces or repairs, prosthetic dentures,  
25 bridges or other substitutes for natural teeth, to the  
26 user or prospective user thereof; or

1           (10) Who instructs students on clinical matters or  
2 performs any clinical operation included in the curricula  
3 of recognized dental schools and colleges; or

4           (11) Who takes material or digital scans for final  
5 impressions of human teeth or places his or her hands in  
6 the mouth of any person for the purpose of applying teeth  
7 whitening materials, or who takes impressions of human  
8 teeth or places his or her hands in the mouth of any person  
9 for the purpose of assisting in the application of teeth  
10 whitening materials. A person does not practice dentistry  
11 when he or she discloses to the consumer that he or she is  
12 not licensed as a dentist under this Act and (i) discusses  
13 the use of teeth whitening materials with a consumer  
14 purchasing these materials; (ii) provides instruction on  
15 the use of teeth whitening materials with a consumer  
16 purchasing these materials; or (iii) provides appropriate  
17 equipment on-site to the consumer for the consumer to  
18 self-apply teeth whitening materials.

19           The fact that any person engages in or performs, or offers  
20 to engage in or perform, any of the practices, acts, or  
21 operations set forth in this Section, shall be prima facie  
22 evidence that such person is engaged in the practice of  
23 dentistry.

24           The following practices, acts, and operations, however,  
25 are exempt from the operation of this Act:

26           (a) The rendering of dental relief in emergency cases



1 in the practice of his or her profession by a physician or  
2 surgeon, licensed as such under the laws of this State,  
3 unless he or she undertakes to reproduce or reproduces  
4 lost parts of the human teeth in the mouth or to restore or  
5 replace lost or missing teeth in the mouth; or

6 (b) The practice of dentistry in the discharge of  
7 their official duties by dentists in any branch of the  
8 Armed Services of the United States, the United States  
9 Public Health Service, or the United States Veterans  
10 Administration; or

11 (c) The practice of dentistry by students in their  
12 course of study in dental schools or colleges approved by  
13 the Department, when acting under the direction and  
14 supervision of dentists acting as instructors; or

15 (d) The practice of dentistry by clinical instructors  
16 in the course of their teaching duties in dental schools  
17 or colleges approved by the Department:

18 (i) when acting under the direction and  
19 supervision of dentists, provided that such clinical  
20 instructors have instructed continuously in this State  
21 since January 1, 1986; or

22 (ii) when holding the rank of full professor at  
23 such approved dental school or college and possessing  
24 a current valid license or authorization to practice  
25 dentistry in another country; or

26 (e) The practice of dentistry by licensed dentists of

1 other states or countries at meetings of the Illinois  
2 State Dental Society or component parts thereof, alumni  
3 meetings of dental colleges, or any other like dental  
4 organizations, while appearing as clinicians; or

5 (f) The use of X-Ray machines for exposing X-Ray films  
6 of dental or oral tissues by dental hygienists or dental  
7 assistants; or

8 (g) The performance of any dental service by a dental  
9 assistant, if such service is performed under the  
10 supervision and full responsibility of a dentist. In  
11 addition, after being authorized by a dentist, a dental  
12 assistant may, for the purpose of eliminating pain or  
13 discomfort, remove loose, broken, or irritating  
14 orthodontic appliances on a patient of record.

15 For purposes of this paragraph (g), "dental service"  
16 is defined to mean any intraoral procedure or act which  
17 shall be prescribed by rule or regulation of the  
18 Department. Dental service, however, shall not include:

19 (1) Any and all diagnosis of or prescription for  
20 treatment of disease, pain, deformity, deficiency,  
21 injury or physical condition of the human teeth or  
22 jaws, or adjacent structures.

23 (2) Removal of, or restoration of, or addition to  
24 the hard or soft tissues of the oral cavity, except for  
25 the placing, carving, and finishing of amalgam  
26 restorations and placing, packing, and finishing

1 composite restorations by dental assistants who have  
2 had additional formal education and certification.

3 A dental assistant may place, carve, and finish  
4 amalgam restorations, place, pack, and finish  
5 composite restorations, and place interim restorations  
6 if he or she (A) has successfully completed a  
7 structured training program as described in item (2)  
8 of subsection (g) provided by an educational  
9 institution accredited by the Commission on Dental  
10 Accreditation, such as a dental school or dental  
11 hygiene or dental assistant program, or (B) has at  
12 least 4,000 hours of direct clinical patient care  
13 experience and has successfully completed a structured  
14 training program as described in item (2) of  
15 subsection (g) provided by a statewide dental  
16 association, approved by the Department to provide  
17 continuing education, that has developed and conducted  
18 training programs for expanded functions for dental  
19 assistants or hygienists. The training program must:  
20 (i) include a minimum of 16 hours of didactic study and  
21 14 hours of clinical manikin instruction; all training  
22 programs shall include areas of study in nomenclature,  
23 caries classifications, oral anatomy, periodontium,  
24 basic occlusion, instrumentations, pulp protection  
25 liners and bases, dental materials, matrix and wedge  
26 techniques, amalgam placement and carving, rubber dam

1 clamp placement, and rubber dam placement and removal;  
2 (ii) include an outcome assessment examination that  
3 demonstrates competency; (iii) require the supervising  
4 dentist to observe and approve the completion of 8  
5 amalgam or composite restorations; and (iv) issue a  
6 certificate of completion of the training program,  
7 which must be kept on file at the dental office and be  
8 made available to the Department upon request. A  
9 dental assistant must have successfully completed an  
10 approved coronal polishing and dental sealant course  
11 prior to taking the amalgam and composite restoration  
12 course.

13 A dentist utilizing dental assistants shall not  
14 supervise more than 4 dental assistants at any one  
15 time for placing, carving, and finishing of amalgam  
16 restorations or for placing, packing, and finishing  
17 composite restorations.

18 (3) Any and all correction of malformation of  
19 teeth or of the jaws.

20 (4) Administration of anesthetics, except for  
21 monitoring of nitrous oxide, conscious sedation, deep  
22 sedation, and general anesthetic as provided in  
23 Section 8.1 of this Act, that may be performed only  
24 after successful completion of a training program  
25 approved by the Department. A dentist utilizing dental  
26 assistants shall not supervise more than 4 dental

1 assistants at any one time for the monitoring of  
2 nitrous oxide.

3 (5) Removal of calculus from human teeth.

4 (6) Taking of material or digital scans for final  
5 impressions for the fabrication of prosthetic  
6 appliances, crowns, bridges, inlays, onlays, or other  
7 restorative or replacement dentistry.

8 (7) The operative procedure of dental hygiene  
9 consisting of oral prophylactic procedures, except for  
10 coronal polishing and pit and fissure sealants, which  
11 may be performed by a dental assistant who has  
12 successfully completed a training program approved by  
13 the Department. Dental assistants may perform coronal  
14 polishing under the following circumstances: (i) the  
15 coronal polishing shall be limited to polishing the  
16 clinical crown of the tooth and existing restorations,  
17 supragingivally; (ii) the dental assistant performing  
18 the coronal polishing shall be limited to the use of  
19 rotary instruments using a rubber cup or brush  
20 polishing method (air polishing is not permitted); and  
21 (iii) the supervising dentist shall not supervise more  
22 than 4 dental assistants at any one time for the task  
23 of coronal polishing or pit and fissure sealants.

24 In addition to coronal polishing and pit and  
25 fissure sealants as described in this item (7), a  
26 dental assistant who has at least 2,000 hours of

1 direct clinical patient care experience and who has  
2 successfully completed a structured training program  
3 provided by (1) an educational institution including,  
4 but not limited to, ~~such as~~ a dental school or dental  
5 hygiene or dental assistant program, or (2) a  
6 continuing education provider approved by the  
7 Department, or (3) ~~by~~ a statewide dental or dental  
8 hygienist association, approved by the Department on  
9 or before January 1, 2017 (the effective date of  
10 Public Act 99-680), that has developed and conducted a  
11 training program for expanded functions for dental  
12 assistants or hygienists may perform: (A) coronal  
13 scaling above the gum line, supragingivally, on the  
14 clinical crown of the tooth only on patients 17 ~~12~~  
15 years of age or younger who have an absence of  
16 periodontal disease and who are not medically  
17 compromised or individuals with special needs and (B)  
18 intracoronal temporization of a tooth. The training  
19 program must: (I) include a minimum of 32 ~~16~~ hours of  
20 instruction in both didactic and clinical manikin or  
21 human subject instruction; all training programs shall  
22 include areas of study in dental anatomy, public  
23 health dentistry, medical history, dental emergencies,  
24 and managing the pediatric patient; (II) include an  
25 outcome assessment examination that demonstrates  
26 competency; (III) require the supervising dentist to

1 observe and approve the completion of 6 full mouth  
2 supragingival scaling procedures unless the training  
3 was received as part of a Commission on Dental  
4 Accreditation approved dental assistant program; and  
5 (IV) issue a certificate of completion of the training  
6 program, which must be kept on file at the dental  
7 office and be made available to the Department upon  
8 request. A dental assistant must have successfully  
9 completed an approved coronal polishing course prior  
10 to taking the coronal scaling course. A dental  
11 assistant performing these functions shall be limited  
12 to the use of hand instruments only. In addition,  
13 coronal scaling as described in this paragraph shall  
14 only be utilized on patients who are eligible for  
15 Medicaid, ~~or~~ who are uninsured, or ~~and~~ whose household  
16 income is not greater than 300% ~~200%~~ of the federal  
17 poverty level. A dentist may not supervise more than 2  
18 dental assistants at any one time for the task of  
19 coronal scaling. This paragraph is inoperative on and  
20 after January 1, 2026.

21 The limitations on the number of dental assistants a  
22 dentist may supervise contained in items (2), (4), and (7)  
23 of this paragraph (g) mean a limit of 4 total dental  
24 assistants or dental hygienists doing expanded functions  
25 covered by these Sections being supervised by one dentist;  
26 or

1 (h) The practice of dentistry by an individual who:

2 (i) has applied in writing to the Department, in  
3 form and substance satisfactory to the Department, for  
4 a general dental license and has complied with all  
5 provisions of Section 9 of this Act, except for the  
6 passage of the examination specified in subsection (e)  
7 of Section 9 of this Act; or

8 (ii) has applied in writing to the Department, in  
9 form and substance satisfactory to the Department, for  
10 a temporary dental license and has complied with all  
11 provisions of subsection (c) of Section 11 of this  
12 Act; and

13 (iii) has been accepted or appointed for specialty  
14 or residency training by a hospital situated in this  
15 State; or

16 (iv) has been accepted or appointed for specialty  
17 training in an approved dental program situated in  
18 this State; or

19 (v) has been accepted or appointed for specialty  
20 training in a dental public health agency situated in  
21 this State.

22 The applicant shall be permitted to practice dentistry  
23 for a period of 3 months from the starting date of the  
24 program, unless authorized in writing by the Department to  
25 continue such practice for a period specified in writing  
26 by the Department.



1           The applicant shall only be entitled to perform such  
2           acts as may be prescribed by and incidental to his or her  
3           program of residency or specialty training and shall not  
4           otherwise engage in the practice of dentistry in this  
5           State.

6           The authority to practice shall terminate immediately  
7           upon:

8                   (1) the decision of the Department that the  
9                   applicant has failed the examination; or

10                   (2) denial of licensure by the Department; or

11                   (3) withdrawal of the application.

12           (Source: P.A. 101-162, eff. 7-26-19; 102-558, eff. 8-20-21.)

13           (225 ILCS 25/17.1)

14           (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

15           Sec. 17.1. Expanded function dental assistants.

16           (a) A dental assistant who has completed training as  
17           provided in subsection (b) of this Section in all of the  
18           following areas may hold himself or herself out as an expanded  
19           function dental assistant:

20                   (1) Taking material or digital scans for final  
21                   impressions after completing a training program that  
22                   includes either didactic objectives or clinical skills and  
23                   functions that demonstrate competency.

24                   (2) Performing pulp vitality test after completing a  
25                   training program that includes either didactic objectives

1 or clinical skills and functions that demonstrate  
2 competency.

3 (3) Placing, carving, and finishing of amalgam  
4 restorations and placing, packing, and finishing composite  
5 restorations as allowed under Section 17.

6 (3.5) Coronal scaling as allowed under Section 17.

7 (4) Starting the flow of oxygen and monitoring of  
8 nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia as allowed under Section  
9 17.

10 (5) Coronal polishing and pit and fissure sealants as  
11 allowed under Section 17.

12 (6) Intracoronal temporization of a tooth.

13 All procedures listed in paragraphs (1) through (6) ~~(5)~~  
14 for dental assistants must be performed under the supervision  
15 of a dentist, requiring the dentist authorizes the procedure,  
16 remains in the dental facility while the procedure is  
17 performed, and approves the work performed by the dental  
18 assistant before dismissal of the patient, but the dentist is  
19 not required to be present at all times in the treatment room.

20 After the completion of training as provided in subsection  
21 (b) of this Section, an expanded function dental assistant may  
22 perform any of the services listed in this subsection (a)  
23 pursuant to the limitations of this Act.

24 (b) Certification and training as an expanded function  
25 dental assistant must be obtained from one of the following  
26 sources: (i) an approved continuing education sponsor; (ii) a

1 dental assistant training program approved by the Commission  
2 on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association; or  
3 (iii) a training program approved by the Department.

4 Training required under this subsection (b) must also  
5 include Basic Life Support certification, as described in  
6 Section 16 of this Act. Proof of current certification shall  
7 be kept on file with the supervising dentist.

8 (c) Any procedures listed in subsection (a) that are  
9 performed by an expanded function dental assistant must be  
10 approved by the supervising dentist and examined prior to  
11 dismissal of the patient. The supervising dentist shall be  
12 responsible for all dental services or procedures performed by  
13 the dental assistant.

14 (d) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to alter  
15 the number of dental assistants that a dentist may supervise  
16 under paragraph (g) of Section 17 of this Act.

17 (e) Nothing in this Act shall: (1) require a dental  
18 assistant to be certified as an expanded function dental  
19 assistant or (2) prevent a dentist from training dental  
20 assistants in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 or  
21 17.1 of this Act or rules pertaining to dental assistant  
22 duties.

23 (Source: P.A. 100-215, eff. 1-1-18; 100-976, eff. 1-1-19;  
24 101-162, eff. 7-26-19.)

25 (225 ILCS 25/18) (from Ch. 111, par. 2318)

1 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

2 Sec. 18. Acts constituting the practice of dental hygiene;  
3 limitations.

4 (a) A person practices dental hygiene within the meaning  
5 of this Act when he or she performs the following acts under  
6 the supervision of a dentist:

7 (i) the operative procedure of dental hygiene,  
8 consisting of oral prophylactic procedures;

9 (ii) the exposure and processing of X-Ray films of the  
10 teeth and surrounding structures;

11 (iii) the application to the surfaces of the teeth or  
12 gums of chemical compounds designed to be desensitizing  
13 agents or effective agents in the prevention of dental  
14 caries or periodontal disease;

15 (iv) all services which may be performed by a dental  
16 assistant as specified by rule pursuant to Section 17, and  
17 a dental hygienist may engage in the placing, carving, and  
18 finishing of amalgam restorations only after obtaining  
19 formal education and certification as determined by the  
20 Department;

21 (v) administration and monitoring of nitrous oxide  
22 upon successful completion of a training program approved  
23 by the Department;

24 (vi) administration of local anesthetics upon  
25 successful completion of a training program approved by  
26 the Department; and

1           (vii) such other procedures and acts as shall be  
2 prescribed by rule or regulation of the Department.

3           (b) A dental hygienist may be employed or engaged only:

4                 (1) by a dentist;

5                 (2) by a federal, State, county, or municipal agency  
6 or institution;

7                 (3) by a public or private school; or

8                 (4) by a public clinic operating under the direction  
9 of a hospital or federal, State, county, municipal, or  
10 other public agency or institution.

11           (c) When employed or engaged in the office of a dentist, a  
12 dental hygienist may perform, under general supervision, those  
13 procedures found in items (i) through (iv) of subsection (a)  
14 of this Section, provided the patient has been examined by the  
15 dentist within one year of the provision of dental hygiene  
16 services, the dentist has approved the dental hygiene services  
17 by a notation in the patient's record and the patient has been  
18 notified that the dentist may be out of the office during the  
19 provision of dental hygiene services.

20           (d) If a patient of record is unable to travel to a dental  
21 office because of illness, infirmity, or imprisonment, a  
22 dental hygienist may perform, under the general supervision of  
23 a dentist, those procedures found in items (i) through (iv) of  
24 subsection (a) of this Section, provided the patient is  
25 located in a long-term care facility licensed by the State of  
26 Illinois, a mental health or developmental disability

1 facility, or a State or federal prison. The dentist shall  
2 either personally examine and diagnose the patient or utilize  
3 approved teledentistry communication methods and determine  
4 which services are necessary to be performed, which shall be  
5 contained in an order to the hygienist and a notation in the  
6 patient's record. Such order must be implemented within 45 ~~120~~  
7 days of its issuance, and an updated medical history and  
8 observation of oral conditions must be performed by the  
9 hygienist immediately prior to beginning the procedures to  
10 ensure that the patient's health has not changed in any manner  
11 to warrant a reexamination by the dentist.

12 (e) School-based oral health care, consisting of and  
13 limited to oral prophylactic procedures, sealants, and  
14 fluoride treatments, may be provided by a dental hygienist  
15 under the general supervision of a dentist. A dental hygienist  
16 may not provide other dental hygiene treatment in a  
17 school-based setting, including but not limited to  
18 administration or monitoring of nitrous oxide or  
19 administration of local anesthetics. The school-based  
20 procedures may be performed provided the patient is located at  
21 a public or private school and the program is being conducted  
22 by a State, county or local public health department  
23 initiative or in conjunction with a dental school or dental  
24 hygiene program. The dentist shall personally examine and  
25 diagnose the patient and determine which services are  
26 necessary to be performed, which shall be contained in an

1 order to the hygienist and a notation in the patient's record.  
2 Any such order for sealants must be implemented within 120  
3 days after its issuance. Any such order for oral prophylactic  
4 procedures or fluoride treatments must be implemented within  
5 180 days after its issuance. An updated medical history and  
6 observation of oral conditions must be performed by the  
7 hygienist immediately prior to beginning the procedures to  
8 ensure that the patient's health has not changed in any manner  
9 to warrant a reexamination by the dentist.

10 (f) Without the supervision of a dentist, a dental  
11 hygienist may perform dental health education functions,  
12 including instruction in proper oral health care and dental  
13 hygiene in either a school setting or long-term care facility.  
14 In addition, a dental hygienist may record care histories and  
15 oral conditions observed at any time prior to a clinical exam  
16 by a dentist ~~and may record case histories and oral conditions~~  
17 ~~observed.~~

18 (g) The number of dental hygienists practicing in a dental  
19 office shall not exceed, at any one time, 4 times the number of  
20 dentists practicing in the office at the time.

21 (h) A dental hygienist who is certified as a public health  
22 dental hygienist may provide services to patients: (1) who are  
23 eligible for Medicaid or (2) who are uninsured and whose  
24 household income is not greater than 300% ~~200%~~ of the federal  
25 poverty level. A public health dental hygienist may perform  
26 oral assessments, perform screenings, and provide educational

1 and preventative services as provided in subsection (b) of  
2 Section 18.1 of this Act. The public health dental hygienist  
3 may not administer local anesthesia or nitrous oxide, or  
4 place, carve, or finish amalgam restorations or provide  
5 periodontal therapy under this exception. Each patient must  
6 sign a consent form that acknowledges that the care received  
7 does not take the place of a regular dental examination. The  
8 public health dental hygienist must provide the patient or  
9 guardian a written referral to a dentist for assessment of the  
10 need for further dental care at the time of treatment. Any  
11 indication or observation of a condition that could warrant  
12 the need for urgent attention must be reported immediately to  
13 the supervising dentist for appropriate assessment and  
14 treatment.

15 This subsection (h) is inoperative on and after January 1,  
16 2026.

17 (i) A dental hygienist performing procedures listed in  
18 paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (a) of Section 17.1  
19 must be under the supervision of a dentist, requiring the  
20 dentist authorizes the procedure, remains in the dental  
21 facility while the procedure is performed, and approves the  
22 work performed by the dental hygienist before dismissal of the  
23 patient, but the dentist is not required to be present at all  
24 times in the treatment room.

25 (j) A dental hygienist may perform actions described in  
26 paragraph (5) of subsection (a) of Section 17.1 under the



1 general supervision of a dentist as described in this Section.

2 (Source: P.A. 100-976, eff. 1-1-19; 101-162, eff. 7-26-19.)